

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 230247

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 230247

FOR ROBERT ROSENSTOCK USUN LEGAL DIVISION

FOLLOWING REPEAT SAN JOSE 4082 AVT ON SECSTATE INFO GUATEMALA MANAGUA
PANAMA SAN SALVADOR AND TEGUCIGALPA 26 SEP 75

QUOTE

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 4082

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: ODUBER DENIES U.S. PRESSURE ON EXTRADITION LAW

REF: SAN JOSE 4075

1. EXCELSIOR OF SEPTEMBER 26 REPORTS COMMENTS BY
PRESIDENT ODUBER MOMENTS BEFORE HE LEFT FOR SWEDEN ON
SEPTEMBER 25TH DENYING THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN HAD
TRIED TO PGESSRE HIM ON THE VESNO EXTRADITION ISSUE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO REPORTERS' QUESTIONS, ODUBER WAS
REPORTED TO HAVE SEID:

A. "THIS GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT ACCEPTBN NOR WOULD
AMBASSADOR TODMAN DARE TO PRESSURE IN THIS CASE OR IN ANY
OTHER."

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PAGE 02 STATE 230247

B. "IT IS NOT TRUE THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN HAS

MADE ANY PRESSURES FOR
CHANGES IN THE TREATY OR LAWS
WHICH REGULATE EXTRADITION BETWEEN COSTA RICA AND THE U.S."

C. "WE (ODUBER AND TODMAN) HAVE SPOKEN ABOUT THESE
INSTRUMENTS (EXTRADITION TREATY AND LAW) AND REVENTTY
AMBASSADOR TODMAN HAS SHOWN ME SUGGESTIONS ON POSSIBLE
VHENGES. I SUBMITTED THESE TO A STUDY BY THE ATTORNEY-
GENERAL'S OFFICE AND YESTERDAY THEY GAVE ME THEIR OPINION."

2. IN A SEPARATE STORY THE SAME DAY ALL THREE MORNING
PAPERS REPORTED IMPROMPTU COMMENTS (BY ACTING PRESIDENT
FERNANDO GUZMAN MATA) OBVIOUSLY PROVOKED BH PRESS INQUIRIES
ABOUT THE ORIGINAL EXCELSIOR STORY (REFTEL). GUZMAN WHO
SIGNED THE PUBLIC PETITION CALLING FOR VESCO'S EXPULSION LAST
DECEMBER SAID HE STILL MAINTAINED THAT VESCO'S PGESENNE
IN COSTA RICA WAS NOT GOOD FOR THE COUNTRY. HE REPORTEDLY SAID,
HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD TAKE NO INITIATIVE TO EXPEL OR
EXTRADITE VESCO, BUT WHAT WAS NECESSARY WAS A REFORM OF
THE CURRENT EXTRADITION LAW. HE ADDED HE HOPED THE
CURRENT EXTRA-
DITION
REFORM BILL PENDING IN THE ASSEMBLY WOULD
BE SUCCESSFUL.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY GRATIFIED THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS CLEARED
THE AIR. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION YET ON ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S
OPINION.
LANE

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